

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00712 111818Z

53

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 SSO-00 /009 W

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P 111515Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3670

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0712

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES - JAMES HENRY LARSON

SUBJECT: DEATH OF JAMES HENRY LARSON

REF: UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0709 DATED DEC. 10

UNCLAS STATE 241258 DATED DEC. 11

1. TELEPHONIC REPORT FROM POLICE IN GRAHAMSTOWN REGARDING
CIRCUMSTANCES LARSON DEATH INDICATE HE COMMITTED SUICIDE BY HANGING.

2. ACCORDING POLICE, LARSON RAISED BED IN HIS ROOM TO VERTICAL
POSITION, TIED ROPE TO BED END AND THROAT FALLING APPROX. ONE FOOT.
POST MORTEM RESULTS WILL BE AVAILABLE TOMORROW. NO RPT NO FARE-
WELL NOTES FOUND IN DECEASED'S ROOM. NO RPT NO FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED
BY POLICE.

3. PROFESSOR NUNN OF RHODES UNIVERSITY, GRAHAMSTOWN STATED
TELEPHONICALLY THAT LARSON SIGNED OUT OF UNIVERSITY LABORATORY AT
1800 DEC. 8. LEFT EXPERIMENT HE WAS CONDUCTING UNFINISHED OR "ON".
PROCEEDED TO HIS BOARDING HOUSE FOR DINNER AND THEN RETIRED TO HIS
ROOM. FOLLOWING MORNING, LANDLORD COULD NOT ENTER LARSON'S ROOMS
TO SERVE COFFEE AS CUSTOMARY, SINCE IT WAS LOCKED. POLICE WERE
CALLED WHO FORCED ENTRY AND FOUND BODY.

4. PROFESSOR NUNN CONSIDERED LARSON QUIET, WELL-LIKED AND
APPARENTLY CONTENTED.

5. THIS IS A PRELIMINARY REPORT OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00712 111818Z

6. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.

GAMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAPET00712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731233/aaaaaxtt.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0709 DATED DEC. 10
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Jan-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEATH OF JAMES HENRY LARSON
TAGS: CDES, SF, (LARSON, JAMES HENRY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005